skimmed milk powder, butter oil and other agricultural products; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI RAMESHWAR THAKUR): (a) and (b). There is no proposal pending with the Government of India for taking a loan from World Bank for import of skimmed milk powder, butter oil or other agricultural product. There is already an ongoing Second National Dairy Project assisted by the World Bank under which investment costs in the dairy sector are being financed.

Schemes for Development of National Highways in Biharxyz

7102. SHRI RAM TAHAL CHOUDHARY: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have approved certain schemes for development of National Highways in Bihar during the Eighth Five Year Plan;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the total length of the roads likely to be developed under these schemes and the amount earmarked for the same?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) As the 8th Five Year Plan i yet to be finalised, it has not been poesible to chalk out th programme for the development of existing National Highways in Bihar in 8th Plan or to earmark funds for the same.

(b) and (c). Do not arise.

[English]

Release of Fund under Agricultural and Rural Debt Relief Scheme to Gujarat

7103. SHRI KASHIRAM RANA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Gujarat has requested the Union Government to release an amount of Rs. 215 crores, half of it as grant and the remaining half as loan through NABARD under A.R.D.R.S. 1990; and

(b) if so, the action taken by the Union Government thereon and when it is to be released?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. A request was received from the State Government of Gujarat in December, 1990 seeking release of an amount of Rs.259.42 crores to the cooperative banks in the State under the Agricultural and Rural Debt Relief (ARDR) Scheme, 1990. The National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) has reported that as on 7.9.1991, a sum of Rs.214.82 crores was sanctioned and released to the Gujarat State Cooperative Bank (GSCB) and Gujarat State Land Development Bank (GSLDB). Out of this Rs.107.41 crores was provided as grant towards Central Government's share and Rs.107.41 crores was given by Reserve Bank of India through NABARD as loan for meeting State Government's share of the debt relief. It is expected that the remaining amount will be provided in the current and the next financial year.

Crisis in Jute Industry

7104. SHRI CHITTA BASU: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Jute Industry is facing an acute crisis;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI ASHOK GEHLOT): (a) to (c). Government have taken several measures for the revival of jute industry including creation of Jute Modernisation to cater to the modernisation require-